



Timberlines

W. J. Breckenridge Chapter Izaak Walton League June 2015

www.breckenridgeikes.org

June

- 9 Board of Directors Meeting— 7 pm
- 23 Social/Educational Meeting—7:30 pm
What's Happening with the Bell?
Susan Weller, Bell Museum Director

July

- 14 Board of Directors Meeting—7 pm
- 28 Social/Educational Meeting—7:30 pm

August

- 11 Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
- 25 Social/Educational Meeting—7:30 pm

Rick Horton National Wild Turkey Federation Regional Biologist, spoke at our May meeting on Wild Turkey restoration..



June Social/Educational Meeting: What's Happening with the Bell?

For over a century the Bell Museum has been a well-loved landmark at the U of M for students and the public alike. What will a move to the St. Paul Campus mean? What will the new building look like when the Museum relocates? How will they move the dioramas? What does the move mean for the Museum's services and outreach and how will it enhance the programs?

Susan Weller, Bell Museum Director, will answer questions and bring us up-to-date on the current plans and the timeline for moving to the St. Paul Campus.



The public is welcome to this social/educational meeting on Tuesday, June 23 at 7:30 p.m. at the Breckenridge Chapter House of the Izaak Walton League of America, 8816 West River Road, Brooklyn Park.



Walter J. Breckenridge Chapter of the Izaak Walton League

May 12, 2015

Board of Directors Meeting Notes

IWLA Member Pledge: We strive for the purity of water, the clarity of air, the wise stewardship of the land and its resources, to know the beauty and understanding of nature, and the value of wildlife, woodlands, and open space, to the preservation of this heritage, and to our sharing in it.

May 12..... Board of Directors Meeting
May 26 Social/Educational Meeting
June 9 Board of Directors Meeting
June 23 Social/Educational Meeting

Attendees: Steve Schaust, Larry Kennebeck, Patrice Lindgren, John Fraley, Jim Arnold, Dick Brown, Wes Hendrickson, Joe Klohs, Roger Williams **Guest:** Marlys Carls-Steiskal

Events/Issue Dick/Larry/Jim
Social/Educational Meeting Speakers
May – Rick Horton, Regional Wildlife Biologist with the National Wild Turkey Federation
June – Susan Weller, Bell Museum Director
July – Open
August -Open

Pancake Breakfast – A special thank you to all of those who volunteered their time. The pancake breakfast, raffle, and plant sale brought in a total of \$1,400.

We have 2 open board positions to fill.

Chapter House & Grounds Joe/Jim/Steve
Fireplace repair update – A J Spanjers Company has made a generous donation of the materials required to make the fireplace repairs. The Chapter will be responsible to cover the labor costs.

Kitchen remodel update – Joe Klohs presented the kitchen remodel project plan and the associated costs to the Board. The project is tentatively scheduled to start in July. A motion was made by Larry Kennebeck to

approve the estimated cost of \$27,000 plus or minus a 15% contingency for the kitchen remodel and fireplace repair. The motion seconded by Roger Williams. Motion passed.

The front foundation wall repair – on hold.

Driveway re-leveling – The freeze/thaw cycle and this past winter's snowplowing has left piles of dirt around the property. We would like to have the piles of dirt leveled out and the holes filled.

Newsletter Marlys
A request for additional donations for funding the kitchen remodel was included in May newsletter. A suggestion was made that we include an article on the electrical update that will be part of the remodel.

Treasurer's Report..... John
Update was given.

Scholarships Jim
Three new scholarship candidates have been selected and notified.

Webmaster Barb
No update was available at the time of meeting.

Rentals Tim
No update was available at the time of meeting.

Membership Lorraine
Membership total stands at 96. A special welcome to our newest members, Scott and Sandra Shjefte, and Kathy and John Yee.

Pancake Breakfast May 3, 2015

A good time is had by all!



Larry & Joe keep tallies



Patrice & Steve flip pancakes



Everyone enjoys breakfast!



Mary Jo & Linda tend plants



Dennis's walking stick looks on!

Island Eagles

By Jim Arnold

On Friday, May 22, Denny Leslie and I traveled to Banfill Island, Breck's Island to most of us Iles, to observe the Mississippi River water quality research project being conducted by the National Park Service. The project is funded by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and involves personnel from the Park Service as well



as Audubon.

The research involves taking measurements, blood samples and a few feathers from young eagles. We watched as an arborist/climber used a crossbow to shoot a line over the branch of a large cottonwood tree, used the line to climb the estimated 80 plus feet to the nest, collected two five to six week old eaglets then returned to the ground. The biologists then banded the bird, took measurements of the beak and feet, and collected the important blood and feather samples. The samples will provide important information on pollutants in the young birds system.

Collecting this information is limited to just a few weeks each spring when the young eagles are not yet strong or agile enough to climb to the edge of the nest and attempt escape. The eaglets we observed seemed quite calm throughout the process. Using young birds is important because they have been eating only food their parents bring to them a limited distance from the nest. Using information taken

from 30 or more nests along the Mississippi, St. Croix and Apostle Islands researchers can then reach conclusions about what pollutants are found in different parts of these waters. So far the research study has shown that the most common pollutants in the river come from chemicals found in fire retardants and Teflon.

The Banfill Island eaglets had been feasting on a duck and a squirrel. This site has been monitored since 2009. It may be the final year of collecting information from this site, however. Although the nest is in good shape, the branches around the nest are questionable for supporting climbers. Also, Bill Route, the park service biologist in charge of this research project, is retiring this year. The Park Service has not as yet hired a replacement.

For more information about eagles and this research project visit the NPS web site: <http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/glkn/monitor/contaminants.cfm>





2015-16 Scholarship Recipients Selected

By Jim Arnold

The scholarship committee met recently to select four talented students who will receive Breckenridge Chapter scholarships for the 2015-16 school year. Most of these students will be present at our June 23 meeting.

Kaelyn Williams, a graduate of Cooper High School, recently completed her junior year at the Duluth campus of the University of Minnesota. Her educational plans include earning a double major in Outdoor Environmental-Recreation Education and Latin American Studies. Her career goals include working as a naturalist, park ranger, or recreational specialist – preferably in a Latin American country. Kaelyn is also interested in working at adaptive outdoor education camps through Courage Center, Three Rivers Park District or NOLS.

Kaelyn has continued her outdoor activities with UMD's Outdoor Program: co-leading a Porcupine Mountains backpack trip and leading elementary school groups in maple syruping lessons. This winter she completed her 8th year volunteering with the Courage Kenney Rehabilitation Institute's Adaptive Downhill Ski and Snowboard Program. Kaelyn writes, "I continue to stay involved in different endurance sports such as running, cross country and downhill skiing, biking, rock climbing and snowshoeing." In February she completed her second American Birniebeiner ski race and is again planning to run in the Superior Trail Race this summer.

Kaelyn hopes to intern as a naturalist at a Duluth nature center and volunteer for UMD's Sustainable Agriculture Project this summer.

Sofia Vrba, a graduate of Maple Grove High School, is planning to double major in genetics and biochemistry at the University of Minnesota before continuing on to earn a graduate degree. She writes, "I wish to focus my energy in cures for zoonotic diseases which are transferable from animals to humans." During college she plans on joining research-oriented organizations to utilize the numerous research opportunities on campus.

She has already received a research grant through the College of Biological Sciences at the U of M.

Sofia has been very active in a variety of school and community activities. She was a member of her high school swim, Nordic ski, and track teams, serving as captain of the Nordic ski team. She participated in DECA (a business career club), served as secretary for the National Honor Society, was front page editor of the school paper and a peer tutor. As a participant in the Carleton Summer Science Institute she performed research on the effects of global warming on gene transcription in plants.

Her community activities have included volunteering for: Maple Grove Hospital, Vacation Bible School, Junior Rotarian and Reading Seedlings. She recently applied for a volunteer position at the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Roseville.

Emily Nagel, a graduate of Red Wing High School, plans to attend the University of Minnesota to specialize in environmental and social studies. Emily writes, "In my long-term career, I hope to work to diversify, broaden, and strengthen the movement for environmental conscientiousness."

Citizens Climate Lobby, a nonpartisan political group that is working for a carbon fee and dividend system, is an environmental group that Emily is involved with. At her high school, she and a friend recently established a Sustainability Club which raises awareness of current environmental issues at the school. This summer she hopes to have time to accept a position she was recently offered on the city's sustainability council. Another summer activity is a writing job with Dr. Nathan Hagan, an environmental activist and professor at the U of M, and Don White, co-founder of Greenpeace and director of Earthtrust translating a book from their "scientific jargon" into language understandable to high school and college students.

Many of Emily's outdoor activities have been involved with Red Wing's Environmental Learning Center. She has been involved with this

group since sixth grade. Her favorite activities have been rock climbing, ice climbing and whitewater kayaking. She is now a junior instructor with the program and is busy planning her group's final expedition, a whitewater trip in British Columbia.

Kayla Berry, a graduate of Maple Grove High School, will attend the University of Minnesota College of Science and Engineering. She plans to major in bioproducts and biosystems engineering. She hopes to work on plant based fuels, lower cost solar photoelectric cells and model wetland purification processes.

Kayla has often volunteered for Three Rivers Park District for activities such as: Monarch butterfly watch, dragonfly monitoring and bee surveys. She has also been a volunteer leader of nature themed summer camps for young children. Other volunteer experiences have been with an organic community supported agriculture cooperative and a 4-H Club.

Kayla is an avid runner and hiker and was a member of her high school's Nordic ski team.

The Breckenridge Chapter has now awarded 71 five hundred dollar scholarships in the seventeen years of the program. The main source of funding for these scholarships is an endowment fund established through the generosity of members. The endowment began with an initial donation from the estate of Irene Swanson in the summer of 1999, followed shortly thereafter by sizeable donations from Cynthia Haugland and Walter and Dorothy Breckenridge. The endowment continues to grow, thanks primarily to generous donations each year from Larry Swanson and Tom and Marilyn Breckenridge. When earnings from the endowment are not sufficient to cover the scholarships costs, fund raisers (like the annual silent auction) and special donations from other members have been used. Thanks to all those members who have made it possible to support local young people as they study for their environmental careers. If you have questions about the Breckenridge Chapter scholarship program please contact one of the committee members: Jim Arnold, Judy Arnold, Melissa Sonnenberg or Charlie Taflin.

Darby Nelson's "Going on 75th" Birthday Party



When: Sunday, June 28th 4-7 PM

Where: Champlin United Methodist Church
921 Downs Road, Champlin, MN 55316

Fact: Darby has never had a birthday party. This is because he's never wanted a birthday party, He's never wanted to be the Big Cheese... until now.

Darby has Mild Cognitive Impairment and now is the right time to get together with friends and family. Please join us in celebrating with him while he can thoroughly enjoy connecting with everyone.

You know Darby; no gifts, please!

Geri, Per & Robin
763-421-7334

If you can provide light refreshments for one of our Tuesday meetings, please contact
Barbara Franklin
763-657-1907
Or bbfrankli@gmail.com

June 23—Mary Ellen Vetter
July 28—
August 25—
Thank you!



W. J. Breckenridge Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America
8816 West River Road
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If you would like to submit an article for the Timberlines, please send it to

Marlys Carls-Steiskal at: **EditorBreckIWL@msn.com**

Deadline is the last day of each month.

“All articles in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the position of the Breckenridge Board of directors.”

Barbara Franklin, Guest Editor, October Issue

Timberlines is available on our website at www.breckenridgeikes.org If you would like to receive notification of its posting, please contact Barb Franklin at 763-657-1907.

And...

Like our Walter J Breckenridge Chapter IWLA
Facebook page!

Feeling Generous?

We will soon be purchasing appliances for our Chapter House's New Kitchen. If you would like to donate to the cause, Please contact Jim Arnold or mail a check to:



Breckenridge Chapter House
8816 West River Road
Brooklyn Park MN 55444

Thank you
The Kitchen Remodeling Committee